

House File 538 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE 538
BY COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

(SUCCESSOR TO HSB 174)

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to the board of parole.

2 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 904A.1, Code 2013, is amended to read as
2 follows:

3 **904A.1 Board of parole — panels.**

4 1. The board of parole is created to consist of ~~five~~ seven
5 members. Each member, except the chairperson and the vice
6 chairperson, shall be compensated on a day-to-day basis. Each
7 member shall serve a term of four years beginning and ending
8 as provided by section 69.19, except for members appointed to
9 fill vacancies who shall serve for the balance of the unexpired
10 term. The terms shall be staggered. The chairperson and vice
11 chairperson of the board shall be full-time, salaried members
12 of the board.

13 2. The board of parole shall be divided into panels of
14 three or five members for the purpose of transacting business
15 and considering inmates for parole and work release. The
16 chairperson shall designate the members and assign the duties
17 of each panel and shall provide that at least one member of
18 each panel shall be the chairperson or vice chairperson of
19 the board. A majority of the members of a panel of the board
20 constitutes a quorum for that panel to transact business.

21 Sec. 2. Section 904A.4, subsection 1, Code 2013, is amended
22 to read as follows:

23 1. The board of parole shall interview and consider inmates
24 for parole and work release and a majority vote of the members
25 of a panel of the board is required to grant a parole or work
26 release.

27 Sec. 3. Section 904A.4A, Code 2013, is amended by adding the
28 following new subsection:

29 NEW SUBSECTION. 2A. Designate the members and assign the
30 duties of each panel of the board of parole.

31 EXPLANATION

32 This bill increases the number of members of the board
33 of parole from five to seven and directs the board to be
34 divided into panels of three or five members for the purpose
35 of transacting business and considering inmates for parole and

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1 work release. The bill provides that the chairperson designate
2 the members and assign the duties of each panel. The bill
3 also provides that at least one member of a panel shall be
4 the chairperson or vice chairperson of the board. The bill
5 provides that a majority of the members of a panel of the board
6 constitutes a quorum to transact business and to grant a parole
7 or work release.